

LEWIS LIMITED ACCESS TIMBER SALE

August 21, 2006 Land Board

Location of Sale:

- Lewistown Unit (NELO) – Approximately 15 miles south of Lewistown, Montana.
- Fergus County – Section 36, T17N-R19E
- 100% Common Schools Trust.

Sale Volume & Estimated Value:

- The estimated volume is 2,000 tons (308 MBF) with a negotiated value of \$40,000.00.
- In addition to the estimated stumpage value, a fee of \$0.40/ton for Forest Improvement will be charged for all merchantable timber harvested.
- 6.50 tons/MBF is the conversion factor.

Sale & Harvest Treatments:

- The sale contains two harvest units totaling 32 acres.
- Silvicultural prescriptions would encourage the development of multi-layered stands and a complex forest structure by retaining a mix of conifer species, a range of size and age classes, and large snags in two shelterwood harvest units.
- No old growth would be harvested.

Harvest Systems:

- 100% tractor

Road Construction:

- Approximately 0.3 miles of temporary road construction is required to access the sale units. One temporary culvert installation is required and would be removed when hauling is completed. Stream banks would be restored and grass seeded.

Public Involvement & Issues:

- No comments were received in response to scoping during the MEPA analysis of the project, and no issues of concern were identified. DNRC specialists reviewed the project, identified issues, and provided input for sale design.

Issues and Mitigations:

- **County Roads** - Hauling will be monitored by the Forest Officer, restricted to dry or frozen conditions, and suspended during spring breakup.
- **Noxious Weeds** - Heavy equipment for felling, skidding, log processing and loading activities will be washed and inspected before being brought to the site. The project will be monitored and treated with herbicides if necessary.

The Director recommends the Land Board direct the Department to sell the Lewis Limited Access Timber Sale.